(c) the names of the routes likely to be allotted to this new airlines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) No such proposal is, presently, under the consideration of the Government.

(c) Does not arise.

**lA'S Agreement on Ground Handling Services**

1588. SHRI RAMAMUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:
SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that IA and Singapore Airport Terminal Services and Singapore Airlines Engineering Company have entered into an agreement;

(b) in what manner the agreement would help in improving the ground handling facilities and engineering services in Indian airports;

(c) whether the proposal has been vetted by CVC and the Solicitor-Generai; and

(d) if so, the suggestions made by them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

**On time performance of IA and Al**

1589. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:
SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the on time performance of Indian Airlines and Air India in the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the reasons for the delay if any; and

(c) what steps Government are taking to improve it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) The on time performance (in %) of Air India and Indian Airlines during the last three years is as under:—

| Year | Air India | Indian Airlines |
|---|---|---|
| 2002-03 | 90.4 | 76.84 |
| 2003-04 | 90.5 | 74.41 |
| 2004-05 | 91.0 | 69.44 |

Delays are mainly due to reasons beyond the control of Air India and Indian Airlines i.e. weather constraints, ATC delays, airport infrastructure constraints etc. and the consequential delays.

(c) All delays are investigated to pinpoint the cause and remedial action is taken wherever necessary, In addition, Government is upgrading the infrastructure which will help airlines to improve their on time performance.

**Cancellation of Air India Express Services**

1590. SHRI V NARAYANASAMY:
DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Air India Express which was started in the Gulf sector as budget Airlines stopped its services for sometime in view of the pilot shortage due to sudden resignation of pilots;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Air India Express Management recruited sufficient number of pilots while starting the new services; and

(d) what efforts have been made to ensure that such an incident does not happen in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Air India Express had to curtail operations due to sudden resignation of 12 number of pilots.

(c) Yes, Sir.